

Message Text

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67

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 L-02 AID-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-01 INR-07 NEA-09 NSAE-00

RSC-01 OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01

OMB-01 /080 W

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R 171815Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7381

INFO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 00821

E.O. 11652: GDS

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TAGS: /UN, UK

SUBJECT: CENTER ON MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS

REF: STATE 6805

1. WE DISCUSSED POINTS RAISED REFTEL WITH JOHN SIMMONS, HEAD ECONOMIC SECTION, UN DEPARTMENT, FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE (FCO), JANUARY 15. WE STRESSED THAT US OPPOSITION TO SOMAVIA BASED ON HIS LACK OF OBJECTIVITY AND NOT HIS CONNECTION WITH THE FORMER CHILEAN REGIME. SIMMONS WAS PLEASED TO HAVE US LIST OF OTHER POTENTIAL CANDIDATES FOR DIRECTOR OF CENTER ON MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS AND STATED IT WOULD BE CIRCULATED IN THE FCO FOR COMMENT. HE SAID FCO AGREES ON BASIC UNACCEPTABILITY OF SOMAVIA AND SHARES OUR REGRET AT UNAVAILABILITY OF DE SEYNES. UKUN MISSION REPORTED THAT DE SEYNES TURNED JOB DOWN BECAUSE HE FELT HIS SUCCESSOR AS UNDER SECRETARY WOULD HAVE DIFFICULT TIME IN LIQHT OF DE SEYNES' CLOSE RELATIONS WITH THE SECRETARY GENERAL. SIMMONS ADDED THAT FCO FEELS SECGEN WILL FIND IT DIFFICULT TO NAME A LATIN AMERICAN TO THIS POST AT SAME TIME THAT IT IS ANTICIPATED HE WILL BE NAMING A LATIN AMERICAN TO SUCCEED MAURICE STRONG AS HEAD OF UN ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM. FCO THUS FEELS GENERAL ACCEPTANCE OF A SUITABLE CANDIDATE FROM THE US LIST, OR AT LEAST FROM ONE OF THE COUNTRIES ON THE LIST, VERY LIKELY.

2. SIMMONS STATED OUR APPROACH WAS QUITE TIMELY AS CENTER IS CURRENTLY BEING DISCUSSED IN FCO AS RESULT OF UKUN MISSION INITIATIVE. THE MISSION HAS REPORTED ITS DOUBTS ABOUT THE WAY THE CENTER IS BEING SET UP AND ITS UNCERTAINTY OVER THE RANK TO BE ACCORDED THE DIRECTOR. IT REPORTS THAT IN ADDITION TO SOMAVIA, THERE ARE TWO OTHER POTENTIAL CANDIDATES WHICH IT SUQGESTS FCO CONSIDER; QUERESHI, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION AND ARSENIS, UNCTAD'S REO IN NEW YORK. THE MISSION ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE LATTER WOULD NOT BE SUITABLE IF THE DIRECTORSHIP WAS RANKED ABOVE D-2. UKUN MISSION HAS INFORMED FCO THAT IT IS GOING TO DISCUSS ITS DOUBTS WITH THE OTHER WESTERN REPS. ON RECEIPT
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OF REPORT FROM NEW YORK ON RESULTS OF THIS CANVASS AND AN INDICATION OF RANK DIRECTOR WILL HOLD, FCO WILL BEGIN CONSIDERATION OF THE POSSIBLE CANDIDATES. SPIERS

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